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End of mandate report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste

(for the period from 14 January to 12 April 2006)

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1599 (2005) of 28 April 2005, in which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL) for a period of one year until 20 May 2006. The report covers major developments since my last report of 17 January 2006 (S/2006/24) and provides an evaluation of the implementation of the mandate of UNOTIL as well as progress made towards the transition to a sustainable development assistance framework. The report also proposes the establishment of a follow-on integrated United Nations office, in response to the request made by Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri in his letter of 17 January 2006 addressed to me (S/2006/39, annex), and reiterated in the letter dated 2 March 2006 from Minister for Foreign Affairs José Ramos-Horta (S/2006/157, annex) and the letter dated 2 April 2006 from President Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão (S/2006/230, annex) also addressed to me.

2. The proposal for a follow-on integrated United Nations office also takes into consideration the letter dated 28 March 2006 from the President of the Security Council (S/2006/196) requesting me to present options on how the United Nations can best provide assistance to Timor-Leste following the end of UNOTIL's mandate, taking into account that peace and democracy need to be further consolidated. In this regard, the Council asked that due consideration be paid to the following elements: (a) the best modality for assisting Timor-Leste in all aspects concerning the organization of the 2007 national elections; (b) maximum use of and efficient coordination with bilateral and multilateral donors on existing and forthcoming assistance to Timor-Leste in post-conflict peacebuilding and capacity-building, including in the field of human rights and rule of law; (c) respect for the sovereignty of Timor-Leste, bearing in mind that the rules and processes governing the national elections should be part of a broad national consensus; and (d) the report of the 2005 United Nations electoral needs assessment mission, addressing the issues and challenges facing Timor-Leste as it prepares for the first post-independence national elections in 2007.

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II. Recent political and security developments in Timor-Leste

3. During the reporting period there was a troubling development related to the Timorese armed forces (Forcas Armadas de Defesa de Timor Leste (F-FDTL)). On 8 February 2006, around 400 members of the armed forces demonstrated in front of the office of the President, demanding a response to their petition of 15 January concerning alleged discrimination in promotions and ill-treatment, in particular against members from non-eastern areas of the country. On 9 February, the demonstrators, who had not returned to their respective F-FDTL bases since signing the petition, agreed to return to the military base at Metinaro (west of Dili). Although a commission of inquiry to investigate the allegations in the petition was established by the Chief of Staff of F-FDTL, little progress was made towards resolving the issues because the protesting soldiers refused to cooperate with the Commission. Meanwhile, more soldiers joined the original protestors, culminating in mid-March in the dismissal of 591 soldiers, representing almost 40 per cent of the armed forces. In his address to the Nation on 23 March, President Gusmão stated that, in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, he respected the decision of the Commander of the armed forces, Brigadier-General Taur Matan Ruak, to dismiss all 591 protesting troops, but that, in his capacity as President, he found that "it focused more on military discipline and failed to address the root causes of the problems within the F-FDTL".

4. In Dili in late March, a number of violent incidents took place, mostly confined to the outskirts of the city, involving stone throwing, physical fights and vandalism, which gave rise to general anxiety among the population of the city. After three days, following appeals from President Gusmão, Prime Minister Alkatiri and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ramos-Horta, the situation returned to normal. The Timorese national police (Policia National de Timor-Leste (PNTL)), responded immediately to the incidents and arrested a total of 48 suspects, eight of whom were among the dismissed F-FDTL soldiers. Simultaneously, in an effort to strengthen the organizational foundation and the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Defence and the armed forces, President Gusmão asked, in his letter of 2 April (S/2006/230, annex), that I request the Security Council to authorize the deployment of 8 to 10 United Nations civilian advisers to assist with such capacity-building. In this context, I am pleased to report that, on 12 April, the President met with the Prime Minister and Brigadier-General Ruak and that they agreed to take steps in order to end the impasse regarding the dismissed F-FDTL soldiers, including the carrying out of a formal legal process to examine the contracts of those soldiers and the continuation of payment of their salaries until that process has been completed.

5. Since the border incident of 6 January 2006 (S/2006/24, para. 2), the situation along the border between Timor-Leste and Indonesia has remained calm. However, with a porous and inadequately guarded border separating the two countries, there have been occasional reports of illegal entries into Timor-Leste. In this context, I hope that Timor-Leste and Indonesia will be able to implement the border pass system agreed to in 2003, which would facilitate family visits as well as other social and economic activities for communities living in the border areas and also reduce the number of illegal crossings. In the absence of an established border pass system, the number of illegal crossings has risen, and could result in cross-border incidents. The continued presence of a large number of former Timorese refugees located in the border districts of West Timor also raises concerns that even minor incidents or

localized conflicts in the border areas could escalate, especially if political tensions within the country intensify before or during the 2007 elections. While it is commendable that the two Governments have reached agreement on matters relating to the border, I hope that they can soon complete the delineation of the land border between Timor-Leste and Indonesia, negotiations on which are expected to resume soon. Furthermore, I hope that the two countries can finalize the border management agreement, which was meant to replace the military liaison arrangement between the Indonesian military and the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET) that expired in June 2005. I trust that Timor-Leste and Indonesia will proceed to conclude this agreement expeditiously, as it will be critical in providing a framework for the peaceful resolution of border disputes.

6. During the reporting period, Timor-Leste and Indonesia continued to maintain cordial relations. On 17 February 2006, President Gusmão met with his Indonesian counterpart, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in Bali, Indonesia, to discuss: the report of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation; the joint investigation into the 6 January border incident; and the strengthening of bilateral relations between Timor-Leste and Indonesia. The two Heads of State were also briefed by all members of the bilateral Commission for Truth and Friendship on the progress achieved by the Commission since its establishment on 9 March 2005. Subsequently, from 20 to 26 February, all members of the Commission for Truth and Friendship conducted their first joint visit to Timor-Leste, during which they held their ninth plenary meeting and met with, at their request, several people, including my Special Representative Sukehiro Hasegawa, the Prosecutor-General of Timor-Leste Longuinhos Monteiro and the President of the national Parliament Francisco Lu'Olo Guterres. These developments contributed to further strengthening of the bilateral relationship between the two countries, particularly at the political level.

7. The legal framework of Timor-Leste was further strengthened by the adoption by Parliament of the Statute of Combatants for the National Liberation, which was promulgated by the President on 5 April 2006. The issue of the criminalization of defamation in the draft penal code, which Parliament had authorized for adoption on 29 July 2005 (S/2005/533, para. 4), triggered intense reaction and debate among civil society organizations in February and repeated calls on the President to veto the code. On 31 March, President Gusmão returned the draft penal code to Prime Minister Alkatiri for further review of particular provisions. Various international and national civil society organizations have raised concerns that its promulgation in its present form could curtail freedom of expression and have a potentially negative impact on the activities of political parties and the media in the lead-up to the 2007 elections. As the political parties continue to expand their bases of support, a series of polemical exchanges and recriminations between them have already begun. While the political debate has so far been restrained, political tensions could escalate as the elections draw closer.

8. In March 2006, marking the start of the dialogue on the electoral process, President Gusmão organized two workshops aimed at sensitizing key political actors to electoral standards as well as electoral policy issues that need to be resolved in preparation for the 2007 parliamentary and presidential elections. Two public forums were also held on the issue of quotas for women in the electoral law. On 26 January, a local non-governmental organization, Fokupers, in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister for the Promotion of Equality and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), held a workshop on women's

participation in the 2007 elections. On 6 March, the Office of the President, the Prime Minister's Office for the Promotion of Equality, UNIFEM and Fokupers jointly hosted a workshop to discuss the quota issue as well as women's participation in the voting process, the women's platform, the electoral law and the role of political parties. These initiatives were intended, inter alia, to respond to the concerns of various political actors regarding the lack of available information on a number of electoral policy matters, such as the electoral calendar and the electoral law. It is expected that the political debate will gain further momentum once the process of drafting the electoral laws has been finalized and public consultations undertaken. The Ministry of State Administration, with the assistance of one UNOTIL-funded adviser and two bilaterally funded advisers, completed draft texts of the electoral laws for the parliamentary and presidential elections in early April. I welcome the Prime Minister's intention to submit the draft electoral laws to the Parliament by early May so that wide consultations can be held on the provisions of those draft laws.

III. Contribution of the United Nations

A. Role of the Mission

9. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1599 (2005), UNOTIL continued to work towards a smooth transition to a development assistance framework and encouraged coordinated donor assistance for projects aimed at long-term development in Timor-Leste. UNOTIL also continued to hold policy review and coordination meetings on a weekly basis in order to review key issues related to the development of institutional capacity in Timor-Leste, together with representatives of State institutions and civil society, the United Nations system and development partners.

10. In an effort to enhance transparency and accountability in public administration, UNOTIL arranged, in consultation with the Prime Minister, with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, for an independent mission to visit the country from 15 to 28 January. The mission was comprised of five high-level experts from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, UNDP, the World Bank, Transparency International (a non-governmental organization) and the Government of Finland. Following a review of key State institutions, the mission formulated practical recommendations on how to improve transparency and accountability in the Timorese public administration, which are presented in the mission's report, released in Timor-Leste on 4 April. The recommendations address the requirements for transparency and accountability in 10 institutional areas, namely: the Parliament; the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice; the Office of the Adviser on Human Rights; the electoral system, including the nascent independent National Electoral Commission and the Secretariat for the Technical Administration of the Elections; the legal, judicial and law enforcement systems; the Office of the Inspector General; the High Administrative, Tax and Audit Court; the Petroleum Fund; the civil service; and civil society and the media. During the visit of the mission, UNOTIL organized the fourth meeting of the consultative group established under paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1599 (2005). The meeting, which focused on transparency and accountability issues, provided a forum

for the high-level experts to share their observations and recommendations with representatives of Timorese institutions and civil society as well as with development partners. The latter expressed keen interest in the recommendations and were urged by UNOTIL to support the efforts of the Government to enhance transparency and accountability within Timorese institutions.

11. As indicated in my previous report (S/2006/24, para. 23), UNOTIL is providing, at the request of the Timorese Government, advisory assistance for the preparation of elections as part of its capacity-building efforts. To date, UNOTIL has deployed an electoral management adviser and an information technology adviser on voter database management, to provide assistance to the Secretariat for the Technical Administration of the Elections, and a short-term legal drafter to assist the Ministry of State Administration on the electoral law. In close cooperation with the Government of Timor-Leste, the Electoral Assistance Division of the United Nations Secretariat and UNOTIL, UNDP is also formulating an electoral assistance project for the 2007 elections, aimed at ensuring the conformity of the legal and institutional electoral framework with international standards as well as the strengthening of the capacities of the electoral bodies. During the reporting period, UNOTIL, in cooperation with relevant United Nations partners, also provided training to the media in various areas, including in-depth reporting on the electoral process and human rights.

12. In paragraph 9 of its resolution 1599 (2005), the Security Council reaffirmed the need for credible accountability for the serious human rights violations committed in East Timor in 1999. In response to the letter of 28 September 2005 from the President of the Security Council addressed to me (S/2005/613), I will soon be submitting a separate report to the Security Council on justice and reconciliation for Timor-Leste, with a practically feasible approach, including possible support by the United Nations in this area. In its resolution 1599 (2005), the Council also underlined the need for the Secretariat, in agreement with the authorities of Timor-Leste, to preserve a complete copy of all records compiled by the Serious Crimes Unit. At a ceremony held in Dili on 5 April 2006, my Special Representative, Minister of Justice Domingos Sarmento, and Prosecutor-General Monteiro signed an agreement authorizing the United Nations to obtain copies of all records of the Serious Crimes Unit for preservation and storage at its New York Headquarters. The records have been copied and are to be shipped to Headquarters by the end of April 2006.

Programme I: Support for the development of critical state institutions

13. During the reporting period, with the support of UNOTIL civilian advisers, State institutions in Timor-Leste made further progress in strengthening their institutional capacity, particularly in the areas of finance, justice, security, transparency and accountability, and the further development of a legal framework. UNOTIL civilian advisers have also made substantial progress in their efforts to transfer critical capacity-building responsibilities to the Government, with the continuing assistance of bilateral and multilateral partners. The handover to the Government of the automated monitoring and evaluation system for institutional capacity development, developed by UNMISET and UNOTIL in 2005, is expected to be completed by 20 May 2006. Furthermore, the Capacity Development Coordination Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister is expected to assume all functions related to international technical advisers, including assessments of needs

for advisers, their identification and selection, after 20 May. In the light of the further progress made by UNOTIL in handing over responsibilities to the Government as well as development partners, it is expected that 4 of the 45 civilian adviser positions currently provided by UNOTIL will no longer be required beyond May. The remaining 41 positions, however, will still be needed. While appreciating the efforts of the development partners to generously support many of these positions, I would encourage them to contribute further to ensure the continued deployment of all of these international advisers, whose services are critical to the further capacity-building and development of Timorese institutions.

14. In the justice sector, which remains one of the most critical areas in need of continuing assistance, UNDP is expected to cover almost all remaining support needs following the expiration of the Mission's mandate, including through the provision of advisers to perform certain key functions presently undertaken by 16 UNOTIL judicial advisers and 7 UNDP judicial advisers. In order to facilitate this transition, in January 2006, UNOTIL and UNDP judicial advisers began to cooperate in providing specialized training to the 27 Timorese judicial actors who had successfully passed their midterm evaluation (S/2006/24, para. 19). Following completion of the specialized training in May 2006, UNDP judicial advisers will provide the Timorese judicial actors with on-the-job-training and mentoring from June 2006 through mid-2007, in order that they may be able to work within the court system as probationary judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers. In order to support the further development of the court system, UNOTIL judicial advisers also contributed to providing introductory training to 36 national court clerks, administrators and prosecution clerks in the areas of case management and court administration. At the same time, UNOTIL continued to support the performance of line functions in all four district courts through the deployment of four sets of international judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers as well as three international Appeal Court judges. It is anticipated that support in the performance of such line functions will continue to be required beyond May 2006. In order to meet outstanding needs in this area, some of the judicial adviser positions currently funded by UNOTIL will be continued under the UNDP justice programme, including two Appeal Court judges, three District Court judges, two prosecutors, one defence lawyer, two executive court clerks and one legal adviser to the Ministry of Justice. Portugal and Brazil have been providing advisory assistance to Timor-Leste's institutions, notably in the justice sector. Portugal is contributing $1 million per year over three years to the UNDP justice programme and Brazil is seconding four judicial experts to Timor-Leste through the programme. Brazil and Portugal will also provide substantial assistance to Timor-Leste after the end of May through their commitment to jointly fund all 17 positions in the justice sector that are to be incorporated into UNDP's justice programme. Portugal is also providing two bilateral advisers to the Ministry of State Administration to assist with the drafting of the electoral laws for the 2007 elections.

15. With support from international advisers, further progress was achieved during the reporting period in the implementation of case management and internal control systems in the Prosecution Service. Clear procedures for the registration of all pending files, the maintenance of monthly statistics of cases at the district level and controls over pretrial detention have now been institutionalized. Nevertheless, the institutional capacity of the Prosecution Service remains fragile, primarily due to a lack of experienced personnel. Since January 2006, when national prosecutors

commenced the second phase of judicial training, international prosecutors have performed all line functions. With their support, 826 cases have been completed, including 250 cases that have been backlogged since September 2005, although approximately 2,500 cases are still pending. In the light of the remaining requirements of the Prosecution Service for assistance, a three-year programme of support to the Office of the Prosecutor-General, funded by Australia (AusiAid), will be launched in July 2006. It is estimated that four additional international prosecutors will be needed after May 2006 to assist their Timorese counterparts in the performance of line functions. Two of the four UNOTIL international prosecutor positions will be continued under the UNDP justice programme, while the other two will be maintained through the AusiAid programme to the Office of the Prosecutor-General.

16. The capacity of Timorese defence lawyers also remains inadequate. In order to address this gap, international defence lawyers continued to visit detainees and to represent the indigent in criminal proceedings. They also provided training to private lawyers, with a particular focus on the criminal procedure code that went into effect in January 2006, given that the criminal code, although approved by the Government, has not yet been promulgated by the President. International civilian advisers and UNDP trainers also assisted police officers in conducting intensive training programmes on the implementation of the criminal procedure code.

17. With support from six UNOTIL legal advisers, the Timorese legal framework was further strengthened through the adoption of eight Government decree-laws and two parliamentary laws. The adoption of several organic laws relating to the mandate of key Timorese institutions, including a statute on public defenders and an organic law on the Office of the Inspector-General, remains outstanding however. It is therefore anticipated that international legal advisers will be required beyond May 2006 to provide continued assistance to various State institutions, such as the Parliament, the Office of the President, the Council of Ministers and the Ministries of Justice, Planning and Finance, and Foreign Affairs, particularly in the drafting of legislation. In order to address outstanding needs in this area, eight legal adviser positions currently funded by UNOTIL will need to be maintained beyond May 2006. It is currently estimated that, of those eight legal adviser positions, three for the Council of Ministers will be funded through bilateral assistance (Australia); three for the Parliament will be provided under the UNDP national parliament project; one for the Ministry of Planning and Finance will be funded by the World Bank under its planning and financial management capacity-building programme; and one for the Office of the President will be funded through the UNDP project for support to the President's Office. Although some development partners have expressed interest in supporting the legal adviser position needed for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, no funding commitment has yet been secured.

18. In the finance sector, UNOTIL civilian advisers successfully transferred all line functions being performed within the Treasury to their national counterparts. During the reporting period, national officers with mentoring and guidance from UNOTIL finance advisers prepared, for the first time, quarterly and annual financial reports as well as accounts for external audit purposes. In addition, with support from UNOTIL finance and legal advisers, an organic law for the Ministry of Planning and Finance was submitted to the Council of Ministers for review, while new laws on procurement and public contracts were adopted, enabling the Ministry of Planning and Finance to decentralize some procurement functions to line

ministries and district governmental structures. Following the end of the Mission's mandate, the World Bank is expected to provide support for critical outstanding needs of the finance sector, including through implementation of its comprehensive planning and financial management capacity-building programme aimed at further strengthening the Ministry of Planning and Finance over the next five years.

19. In the area of transparency and accountability, two UNOTIL advisers supported the Office of the Inspector-General in preparing four additional reports on outcomes of investigations and audits, and the Prosecutor-General filed a criminal indictment for the first case of corruption submitted by the Inspector-General. The Office of the Inspector-General will, however, require international support beyond May 2006. Bilateral assistance from the United States of America and Japan is expected to provide support for major outstanding requirements of the Office, while New Zealand has expressed interest, although not yet a firm commitment, in providing support to the Office of the Adviser on Human Rights to the Prime Minister.

20. In the security sector, UNOTIL continued to fund three adviser positions for the Ministry of Defence to provide advice and assistance as well as to further develop and strengthen their overall capacity in handling security-related matters. In this connection, as noted above, President Gusmão requested, in his letter of 2 April (S/2006/230, annex), Security Council authorization for the United Nations to deploy 8 to 10 international advisers to assist in strengthening institutional capacity-building in the area of defence, particularly to build the organizational foundation and the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Defence and the armed forces, as well as in the area of human rights.

21. In light of the requests for civilian advisers that have been presented in the recent letters from the Prime Minister and the President, and considering the outstanding requirements after 20 May that warrant international assistance but have not yet been covered under other bilateral/multilateral arrangements, I propose to support the provision of up to 10 civilian advisers under the recommended integrated United Nations office.

Programme II: Support for further development of the Timorese police

22. UNOTIL police advisers continued to support further development of the Timorese national police through the provision of training, mentoring and transfer of skills and knowledge to their national counterparts. During the period of UNOTIL's mandate, 71 training courses were conducted for the Timorese national police. Of those, 39 courses were conducted by UNOTIL police advisers for specialized units of the Timorese police and 16 for the Border Patrol Unit, whereas 16 courses were delivered jointly by UNOTIL police advisers, the Timor-Leste Police Development Programme sponsored by the United Kingdom and Australia, and other bilateral partners (two of which are still in progress). In total, UNOTIL police training advisers, together with 45 Timorese police master trainers, trained 2,556 Timorese police officers. As a result, significant progress was achieved on the further development of the capacities of the Timorese police, with particular focus on its institutional development, the professionalism of the police force and the training of national police trainers.

23. During the period under review, UNOTIL police advisers cooperated with bilateral partners to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to further training

of the Timorese police, including through the provision of joint training in various areas. In addition, Australia, Malaysia and Thailand provided a number of advance courses on mid-level management, close protection, counter-terrorism and marine navigation. These training courses have further enhanced the skills and capabilities of the Timorese police, in particular its specialized units, which, as a result, are now expected to be able to independently continue their further development beyond the end of UNOTIL's mandate. Further, UNOTIL police advisers assisted their Timorese counterparts in the delivery of humanitarian aid in response to the floods that occurred in Oecussi in January 2006. These joint humanitarian activities contributed to enhancing the capacity of the Timorese police to plan and conduct relief operations, as well as to bringing them closer to the local communities.

24. Institutional strengthening of the Timorese police, including through the formulation of rules, guidelines and standard operating procedures, is of utmost importance for the sustainability and effective functioning of the organization. Following completion of a "training of trainers" programme in September 2005, UNOTIL police advisers worked in close cooperation with Timorese police trainers and leadership ranks on the development of training materials as well as rules, guidelines and procedures. A considerable number of critical operational and training manuals for each of the specialized police units were completed, and police standing operating procedures developed, on the basis of internationally accepted democratic policing standards and best practices. Close cooperation and consultation between UNOTIL police advisers and their Timorese police counterparts in the development of these materials has helped to foster a sense of ownership by the national police, as well as contributed to enhancing the capacity and skills of the leadership of the Timorese national police.

25. With support from UNOTIL police advisers, the Professional Ethics Office of the Timorese national police continued to strengthen its 13 district offices in order to respond to the increased need for implementation of the disciplinary regulations and code of conduct. UNOTIL, in cooperation with the Timorese police, also conducted four workshops and seminars to raise awareness of professional conduct and accountability standards. In the first quarter of 2006, the professional ethics database of the Timorese police registered 12 human rights violation cases, as compared to 28 during the corresponding period in 2005, reflecting a decrease in the overall number of such cases. However, despite the efforts jointly undertaken by UNOTIL and the Timorese police to accelerate the process of investigation of disciplinary cases, the processing time remained slow and more than 35 disciplinary cases remain pending, including some dating from 2002 and 2003. An analysis conducted on the basis of information collected by UNOTIL showed a rise in the number of cases of political intimidation involving members of the Timorese police in the 2005-2006 period. In total, 18 such incidents were recorded during this period, including instances of arrest and detention of political party workers as well as intervention by the Timorese police in the lowering of opposition party flags.

26. Despite the significant progress achieved with support from UNOTIL police advisers and bilateral partners, the overall capacity of the Timorese police needs further strengthening, requiring continued international support beyond May 2006. In an effort to address the outstanding capacity-building requirements of the specialized units of the Timorese police, Australia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will continue implementation of their joint Timor-Leste police development programme, while the United States will fund the recently

established international criminal investigation assistance training programme. Two major challenges remain to be addressed. Firstly, the Timorese police command and control structure has not yet been fully institutionalized. In some cases, agents are supervised by officers of equal rank, which negatively impacts on leadership and command responsibility; in others, the chain of command is compromised by political interference. While a promotion policy has been drafted, it has not yet been fully implemented and promotions are currently awarded on an ad hoc basis rather than in a systematic manner. Recent incidents also raised serious concerns regarding the perceived tendency of the Timorese national police to use excessive force. Furthermore, these incidents revealed the inadequate leadership and managerial skills of local police commanders, who proved to be unable to take important decisions in critical situations without the advice and support of UNOTIL police advisers. Secondly, an acute shortage of logistical resources (particularly transportation and communications) has seriously affected the operational effectiveness and efficiency of the Timorese national police. For example, the communications network, which is of paramount importance for any law enforcement agency, is only available in the capital and a few other districts, which has a detrimental effect on the timely sharing of sensitive information and the relaying of guidance to police units in the districts.

27. As reflected above, the Timorese police is still a nascent force, lacking sufficient experience, particularly at the command level, as well as adequate resources. In view of the forthcoming presidential and parliamentary elections in 2007, the continued deployment and impartial presence of United Nations police advisers is therefore considered to be of critical importance, both prior to and during the elections. In particular, their continued assistance will be required for the training of the Timorese police on security-related duties for the elections, how to address possible post-election tensions and problems, and the development and implementation of a comprehensive security plan for the elections. The sheer presence and advisory role of United Nations police before and during the elections is expected to serve as a reassuring and confidence-building factor for the Timorese police.

Support for development of the Border Patrol Unit

28. During the reporting period, UNOTIL continued to provide 15 military training advisers and 20 police advisers to support further development of the Border Patrol Unit of the Timorese police. In addition, they continued to assist the Government in coordinating contacts with the Indonesian military, with the objective of enabling the Border Patrol Unit to assume full responsibility for such coordination as soon as possible.

29. UNOTIL military training advisers continued to assist in building the border management skills of the Border Patrol Unit, primarily through implementation of the one-on-one "command, leadership and management" mentoring programme for the Unit's commanders at all levels, which commenced in February. The military training advisers also focused on observing the Border Patrol Unit's execution of border operations and related tasks and provided critical feedback to local commanders on how to improve overall performance. In addition, UNOTIL military training advisers continued to encourage border patrol officers to play a more active role in border meetings with their Indonesian counterparts at the border posts. As a result, the capacity, skills and overall level of confidence of the Border Patrol Unit

showed marked improvement during the period under review, as also conveyed by the feedback on the Unit's performance provided by Indonesian Army Commanders to UNOTIL. The latter have indicated their particular satisfaction with the degree of post and district level interaction with the Unit, which has steadily improved over the past 12 months. They expressed concern, however, over the absence of compatible and portable communications equipment that would enable border post commanders on each side to quickly and effectively coordinate security operations in response to unexpected border incidents. UNOTIL police and military advisers have also noted considerable deficiencies in almost all areas of logistical support, in particular with respect to surveillance equipment and overall equipment repair capacity. I urge donors to assist the Unit in addressing such logistical challenges by funding bilateral or multilateral programmes aimed at enhancing the Unit's capabilities in specific critical areas, such as communications surveillance and mobility. In addition, the Border Patrol Unit will continue to struggle with the task of managing a long border with insufficient personnel. The Unit may thus require substantial reinforcement from other areas of the Timorese police in the event of a deterioration of the security situation along the border.

30. Timor-Leste's desire to hold free and fair elections in 2007 in a stable and secure environment may present additional border security challenges, which will likely place increased demands on the Border Patrol Unit well beyond their routine responsibilities. Around 26,000 former Timorese refugees continue to live in neighbouring West Timor and remain connected with Timor-Leste due to a variety of interests, including trade, property and family relationships. Some have been indicted by the Timor-Leste authorities in connection with violent crimes in 1999. In the past, a United Nations military presence on the border proved effective in easing tensions along the border, including those that arose through mistakes and misunderstandings. Should the Security Council agree to the post-UNOTIL deployment of a modest number of military liaison officers, such a presence could provide impartial feedback and advice, thereby reducing the possibility of conflict, particularly at a time of possible heightened tensions as a result of the upcoming elections and where the two sides have vastly different strengths and capabilities. Such United Nations military liaison officers would also have the ability to provide situational awareness in sensitive border areas, where rumours can fuel suspicions and tension through regularly interacting with security agencies on both sides of the border and promoting appropriate standards of conduct and professional maturity.

Programme III: Provision of training in observance of democratic governance and human rights

31. The UNOTIL Human Rights Unit continued to build national capacity for the protection of human rights in Timor-Leste. The Unit assisted with the finalization of treaty-specific reports under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the common core document. It is anticipated that these reports will be approved by the Council of Ministers by the end of April. The Unit also provided support to the Government in drafting a national human rights action plan. A report outlining the consultation process leading up to the drafting of that plan has been completed and the baseline report is being finalized. While it is anticipated that the Government will consider the plan for adoption in May 2006, the progress made thus far towards its adoption reflects a growing awareness on the Government's part of the need to

address human rights issues. As regards treaty reporting and the further development and implementation of the national human rights action plan, further technical assistance is expected to be required beyond May 2006 in order to consolidate the achievements made thus far. Similarly, continued international support will be needed to further strengthen mechanisms to effectively respond to human rights complaints within the police and the prison system, including the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice, an independent institution mandated to receive complaints related to human rights, corruption and maladministration.

32. Since my previous report (S/2006/24), the Human Rights Unit has conducted various training programmes in cooperation with national partners, including training courses on human rights, use of force and human trafficking for approximately 150 Timorese police officers from different units. The Unit also mentored Timorese police human rights instructors during the training of new recruits, using the Unit's human rights training manual. Further support was provided by the Unit to civil society in the area of human rights through programmes such as a "training-of-trainers" course on human rights education for non-governmental organizations across the country as well as human rights training for the media.

33. The Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice began to receive complaints related to human rights, corruption and maladministration from the public on 20 March, as scheduled, marking a significant milestone in the strengthening of the national human rights protection system. In preparation for the opening of the Provedor's Office to the public, the Human Rights Unit conducted training for its staff in international human rights law, the domestic legal framework for the protection of human rights and the mandate of the Provedor's Office. The Unit also assisted in preparing the draft rules of procedure of the Office for the handling of complaints and trained its staff in the use of such procedures.

34. The UNOTIL Human Rights Unit, with assistance from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), also collaborated with the United Nations country team to mainstream human rights throughout the United Nations development assistance framework for 2008-2012, which is currently being prepared. OHCHR, which has also supported the UNOTIL Human Rights Unit and Timorese partners through implementation of a technical cooperation project, has offered to continue its engagement with Timor-Leste throughout 2006-2007. An OHCHR needs assessment mission was undertaken in Timor-Leste from 26 to 31 March 2006, following which OHCHR has been finalizing a new technical cooperation project for 2006-2007 with the Government and key stakeholders. The project is expected to further strengthen the human rights capacity of the Government, the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice, the Timorese police and civil society through training and technical assistance in the areas of human rights promotion and education, treaty reporting, monitoring and access to justice. The needs assessment mission also led to agreement that a senior human rights officer to head the human rights section of the proposed follow-on office will serve as the human rights adviser in the United Nations country team and will also coordinate the work of all international human rights advisers in State institutions. In this way, the achievements of the UNOTIL Human Rights Unit may be consolidated and sustainably mainstreamed into the long-term development assistance framework.

35. As indicated above, although progress has been made in establishing national structures for the protection of human rights, such structures require considerable strengthening. During the reporting period, two defamation cases were filed by members of the Government against the leader of a main opposition party and the head of a non-governmental organization focusing on corruption allegations. Two previous defamation cases, including one filed against three human rights lawyers, are still pending with the courts. At the same time, limited progress was made in three criminal investigations relating to complaints against public officials.

36. Complaints mechanisms within the police and prison administration are not yet fully effective. In addition, while the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice continued to focus on the training of staff as well as developing its complaints handling procedures, its human resources capacity remains extremely limited. Similarly, achievements made in the area of human rights promotion and education, including through treaty reporting, need to be consolidated. The 2007 elections as well as the concerns about political interference in the administration of justice can be expected to put extreme stress on these nascent institutions and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights.

B. Role of the United Nations system

37. According to the 2006 national human development report for Timor-Leste (see para. 39 below), the country's Human Development Index is 0.426, the lowest among countries belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and reflective of a very high level of income poverty. Social indicators, such as the maternal mortality rate (up to 800 per 100,000 births), also reflect the need for the United Nations to continue playing a critical role in supporting Timor-Leste's development needs. During the reporting period, Timor-Leste has continued to make significant progress and demonstrate a firm commitment towards the achievement of poverty reduction and economic growth, as laid out in its national development plan, and has also enhanced efforts towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. UNOTIL, together with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions and other donors, continued to provide assistance to help Timor-Leste meet its social, economic and human development needs within a sustainable development framework.

38. Since UNOTIL's establishment in May 2005, my Special Representative, who also serves as Resident Coordinator and thus heads the United Nations country team, has spearheaded efforts to enhance coordination and integration of activities between UNOTIL and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in order to facilitate the transition to a sustainable development assistance framework. From 15 to 17 March 2006, my Special Representative and heads of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, participated in a regional workshop on common country programming held in Nadi, Fiji, and, on 30 March, launched the process for formulating a common United Nations country programme for Timor-Leste for submission to their executive bodies in 2007. They also actively participated in the "Timor-Leste and development partners" meeting jointly organized by the Government of Timor-Leste and the World Bank in Dili on 3 and 4 April. Specific activities undertaken by the respective agencies are detailed below.

39. In planning for a smooth transition to a sustainable development assistance framework, UNDP revised its two flagship projects to ensure continued provision of assistance to the justice sector and the Parliament of Timor-Leste. These expanded projects were launched in January and March of 2006, respectively. As of May 2006, all civilian adviser posts allocated by UNOTIL to strengthen the capacity of Parliament will be continued under the UNDP national parliament project, while its justice programme will ensure continued assistance for functions currently performed by UNOTIL legal and judicial advisers. UNDP is also expected to fund the continued deployment of a human rights adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a position which is considered critical in assisting Timor-Leste to meet its reporting obligations under the seven major international human rights treaties it has ratified. In addition, UNDP will continue to support the capacity-building of State institutions through the provision of advisory services to the Capacity Development Coordination Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister. Meanwhile, UNDP has continued to support the further development of Timorese institutional, organizational and human resource capacities through implementation of its institutional capacity development support project and the human resources management project. A reformulation of the UNDP institutional capacity development support project is anticipated in order to increase its focus on such areas as organizational change, institutional capacity assessment and public service reform, in line with the evolving needs of the Timorese public sector. In collaboration with UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund continued to work with the Ministry for State Administration to establish a decentralized local government system. On 9 March, UNDP launched the 2006 national human development report for Timor-Leste, entitled "The Path Out of Poverty: Integrated Rural Development", which received considerable international and local media coverage.

40. The World Bank continued to coordinate the consolidation support programme (S/2005/533, para. 37), which contributes approximately $10 million per year to the national budget of Timor-Leste, in monitoring progress in the areas of governance, basic service delivery and job creation. Since January 2006, the Trust Fund for Timor-Leste has assisted the Government in completing the rehabilitation of 23 markets, conducting the training of 1,000 new entrepreneurs at five business development centres, and finalizing the construction of 22 schools. On 21 March, the Board of the World Bank approved a $7 million contribution to the $37 million 5-year multi-donor funded planning and financial management capacity-building programme (S/2006/24, para. 42). The President of the World Bank, Paul Wolfowitz, who visited Timor-Leste from 8 to 10 April, commended the country for having led a group of nine post-conflict countries in almost every indicator of the World Bank's post-conflict performance indicators. Mr. Wolfowitz assured the Government of the World Bank's continued support, in whatever form is most appropriate, in the critical years ahead.

41. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) continued to assist the implementation of the Government's development strategy for sustainable economic growth. It also continued to provide technical assistance to the Banking Payments Authority in the establishment of a central bank and the management of the Petroleum Fund (S/2006/24, para. 43). IMF also intends to appoint a long-term adviser to the Director of the Treasury in the Ministry of Planning and Finance within the next month. The Asian Development Bank continued its road rehabilitation programme,

including a project worth $12.5 million jointly financed by the Bank and the Government of Timor-Leste. The Asian Development Bank also commenced a feasibility study for the implementation of a new urban water supply and sanitation project, to be financed jointly with the Government of Timor-Leste.

42. UNIFEM continued to assist the Office of the Adviser to the Prime Minister for the Promotion of Equality in the preparation of the Government's reports under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the development of a strategic plan and in fostering gender mainstreaming efforts across all government ministries. In preparation for the 2007 elections, UNIFEM closely cooperated with the Office of the President and the Office of the Prime Minister in engaging stakeholders in a high-level forum to build consensus on women's participation in the voting process, affirmative action policies and a women's agenda. Under its programme for enhancing rural women's leadership, UNIFEM completed the piloting of training models for elected women officials, in collaboration with UNDP and in partnership with the National Institute for Public Administration. UNIFEM also conducted information sessions on the role of local councils for hamlet representatives, in partnership with the National Institute for Territorial Administration under the Ministry for State Administration.

43. In cooperation with UNDP, the United Nations Volunteers provided support to civil society which focused on civic education and the building of relationships between State institutions. Some 45 United Nations Volunteers are currently deployed to Timor-Leste, while the UNV fields 24 Timorese volunteers to other countries. Together with the United Nations Office for Project Services, UNDP continued to implement three community activation programmes in the districts of Ainaro, Manatuto and Oecussi. To date, 84 self-help groups and 241 income-generating groups have been formed in three districts, involving 7,897 households. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs continued the implementation of its $1.6 million pilot project on improving sustainable access to water and energy services in rural areas.

44. The World Food Programme (WFP) expanded its Safety Net programme (S/2006/24, para. 46), including supplementary feeding for pregnant and lactating women and children under five as well as daily feeding for primary school children to the five most vulnerable districts. WFP is finalizing various food security assessments, including a comprehensive food security vulnerability assessment, and has coordinated activities with the Government in emergency relief efforts following high winds, heavy rains and flash floods in the enclave of Oecussi in late January. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continued to assist the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in the development of an agricultural statistics system and in the drafting of a national forest policy and forest legislation to address land degradation and natural disasters.

45. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provided assistance in the first review of the national family planning programme, the recommendations of which were incorporated into a national plan of action. With support from UNFPA, the National Statistics Directorate launched the 2004 census report at the "Timor-Leste and development partners" meeting in early April. UNFPA also assisted with the development of the law on domestic violence as part of its support to the Office for the Promotion of Equality, under the Office of the Prime Minister.

46. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in conjunction with the Government, launched a country programme action plan for 2006-2007, focusing on the expansion of basic service delivery, the implementation of child-friendly policies and legislation, the strengthening of institutional and human resource capacity-building and the development of enhanced partnerships for children. UNICEF also supported the adoption of the universal primary completion strategy of the Ministry of Education, which sets the overall framework for primary education in Timor-Leste. Together with the World Bank, UNICEF supported a youth survey for the formulation of a national youth policy to address critical issues related to young people's education and skills development for eventual entry into the labour market. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Governments of Timor-Leste and Thailand, UNICEF launched a training programme focusing on primary health care at the community level. Timor-Leste currently faces considerable difficulties and challenges in meeting the obligations set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the rights of children to be protected from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. With the continued assistance of UNICEF, special efforts must be made in building capacities of key stakeholders to implement existing and forthcoming laws, policies and procedures for the protection of children.

47. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) implemented a series of non-formal education activities in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture. With financial assistance from Japan, UNESCO launched a "Support for science and technology education in Timor-Leste" initiative. The International Labour Organization (ILO) continued implementing its "Decent work country programme" to expand gainful employment opportunities and strengthen basic institutions for labour administration. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) supported the Ministry of Education in launching a national pilot programme on entrepreneurship management in secondary education and trained public officials in the Ministry of Development on professional management of business regulatory frameworks.

48. In the health sector, the World Health Organization (WHO) and FAO supported the development and implementation of the national emergency preparedness programme for avian influenza. With support from WHO, the Institute of Health Sciences launched a health centre management and leadership programme. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the United Nations theme group for HIV/AIDS and civil society supported the development of Timor-Leste's second national HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections strategy plan.

49. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued to support the Government of Timor-Leste in the development of national legislation and regulations for the protection of refugees. UNHCR also sought to enhance the capacity of relevant national authorities to deal with asylum and refugee issues, including through intensive formal training, and to review individual claims in accordance with international and national standards. UNHCR further provided advice to the Government on a range of refugee-related issues and encouraged the Government of Timor-Leste to ratify the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and accede to the international instruments pertaining to statelessness. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued to assist vulnerable communities in three districts, focusing primarily on the provision of safe drinking water to remote areas. IOM devoted 10 per cent of its project budget to the support

of youth initiatives and continued to support the Government's strategy to prevent the trafficking of persons.

IV. Observations and recommendations

50. As mentioned above, Timor-Leste has made impressive progress in many areas of governance, institution-building and capacity-building, with the support of UNOTIL and bilateral and multilateral partners. I would like to commend the people and leadership of Timor-Leste for their perseverance and their determination to succeed. Nevertheless, many of the country's institutions are at a nascent stage and will require the continued assistance and support of the international community. As UNOTIL's mandate comes to an end, one of the main challenges facing the country is the need to consolidate the progress that has been made in laying the foundations for a democratic system. It is my sincere hope that the presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for 2007, the first since the country's independence, will be a significant step forward in the process of strengthening this fragile democracy. The transparency of the process and the conduct of the elections in a credible manner, with maximum participation of the Timorese electorate, will directly affect the legitimacy of the outcome of the elections.

51. Realizing the enormity of this challenge, President Gusmão, Prime Minister Alkatiri and Foreign Minister Horta have sent letters to me (see para. 1 above), requesting the United Nations, upon completion of UNOTIL's mandate, to establish a special political office in Timor-Leste to assist the Government to carry out free and fair elections. Representatives of political parties and other actors have also conveyed to my Special Representative their desire for a continued United Nations political presence in the country, providing not only impartial support for the conduct of free and fair elections, but also a stabilizing influence on all segments of the society throughout the period leading to elections. In addition to a political presence, the leaders of Timor-Leste have requested that the follow-on United Nations office should include four components, namely: an electoral assistance unit; police training advisers; military liaison officers; and civilian advisers in critical areas that require continued assistance. Furthermore, in his letter of 2 April (S/2006/230, annex), President Gusmão specifically indicated that the Government would welcome the deployment of human rights officers "to monitor and report on the human rights situation during the period leading to the presidential and parliamentary elections".

52. After having considered the communications from the Timorese leadership requesting United Nations assistance, together with the request of the President of the Security Council to present options for such post-UNOTIL assistance, I have given due consideration to the optimal arrangements for assistance and, on that basis, recommend the establishment of a small integrated United Nations office for a period of 12 months, commencing on 21 May 2006. Taking account of other bilateral and multilateral assistance to be provided, the integrated United Nations office, to be comprised of civilian, police and military elements, would be mandated to assist the Government of Timor-Leste with, inter alia, the following:

(a) Support to Timor-Leste in all aspects concerning the organization of the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections, including electoral policy advice, in order to ensure that the elections meet international standards and that the electoral

process has broad national support and participation, as well as to provide an impartial international presence during the campaign period and assistance with the voting and vote counting process and the announcement of the election results;

(b) Support and guidance to the Government and relevant institutions with a view to consolidating democratic development and political stability and facilitating dialogue among Timorese stakeholders in the period approaching the elections;

(c) Assistance and support to the leadership of the Timorese national police (PNTL) through the presence of United Nations police advisers, in planning and preparing electoral-related security arrangements, as well as in facilitating the provision of training and other resource requirements, to adequately prepare national police for performing their roles and responsibilities during the conduct of the 2007 elections;

(d) Support, through the impartial presence of United Nations military liaison officers, to assist the Government of Timor-Leste in liaising with the Indonesian military and to also assist the Border Patrol Unit of the Timorese national police in the planning and conduct of border security operations in preparation for and during the period of the 2007 elections, in order to facilitate a peaceful and secure environment on the border for the conduct of credible elections;

(e) Assist in further building the capacity of State and Government institutions in areas where specialized expertise is required, such as in the justice sector, including through the provision of a limited number of international civilian advisers;

(f) Assist in further strengthening national capacity and mechanisms for the protection of human rights and for promoting justice and reconciliation and to observe the human rights situation during the period leading up to the 2007 elections.

53. The integrated United Nations office would be headed by a Special Representative of the Secretary-General, as recommended, inter alia, in the report of the United Nations Electoral Needs Assessment Mission. The special representative would also serve as the United Nations resident coordinator in order to ensure a cohesive and coordinated approach within the whole United Nations family in Timor-Leste, facilitating integration of the tasks of the integrated office with all developmental activities undertaken by United Nations system partners. The integrated office would comprise a small office to support my special representative and six sections focusing on providing assistance to Timor-Leste in the key areas of its mandate as detailed in paragraph 52 above.

54. In order to achieve the objectives of the mandate, I propose that the integrated United Nations office should include the following components:

(a) Electoral Support and Advisory Section, which would comprise seven electoral advisers as well as two to three United Nations Volunteers in each district to provide technical and logistical advice and support to State and Government institutions involved in elections (for example, technical and supervisory bodies, the Court of Appeal), including, in the areas of electoral legal support, electoral management, information technology, voter education, public outreach and logistical support. The section would also coordinate international electoral assistance to Timor-Leste, in close cooperation with the Electoral Assistance

Division of the Secretariat and UNDP, in order to ensure maximum efficiency of such efforts and avoid duplication of efforts;

(b) Political Advisory Section, which would comprise three political affairs officers to monitor and report on progress in the consolidation of peace and democracy in Timor-Leste and support the Special Representative in his political facilitation and good offices role in the period leading up to and during the elections;

(c) Police Training and Advisory Section, which would comprise 25 United Nations police advisers (reduced from the current 60), to advise and support the Timorese police in planning and carrying out their electoral-related security responsibilities, including through training of the Timorese national police and assisting them in the development and implementation of a comprehensive elections security plan. In the light of this additional task, the required number of United Nations police advisers will be reviewed by a multidimensional assessment team to be deployed before December 2006;

(d) Military Liaison and Advisory Section, which would comprise 10 military liaison officers (reduced from the current 15) who would be based in Dili and travel regularly to the three border districts. Cooperating with bilateral partners, the officers would provide advice and assistance to the Government in liaising with the Indonesian military, as well as to the Border Patrol Unit of the Timorese police in the planning and conduct of proper border security operations and in monitoring the border security situation so as to promote a secure and peaceful environment for the conduct of elections;

(e) Civilian Advisory Section, which would be comprised of 8 to 10 civilian advisers (reduced from the current 45), to provide policy advice and technical assistance for the further strengthening and development of critical State institutions. These advisers would work in close cooperation with other international civilian advisers provided through bilateral and multilateral assistance to ensure effective coordination and use of resources;

(f) Human Rights Support Section, which would be comprised of four human rights officers (reduced from the current 10) to promote respect for human rights within State institutions and civil society, through capacity-building, advice and training, including during the critical electoral process;

(g) A small office to support the Special Representative to carry out his duties and to coordinate the work of the integrated United Nations office with the activities of all United Nations system partners operating in Timor-Leste. An administrative support element would be responsible for providing administrative and logistical support and security arrangements for all personnel within the integrated United Nations office, including the necessary communications, ground transport and air assets to enable their mobility.

55. Given the considerable investment of the United Nations in Timor-Leste over more than six years, it is in the interest of the international community to assist the country in consolidating the achievements thus far. With the provision of assistance through the proposed integrated United Nations office, as has been requested by the Timorese leadership, the Organization can better enable the Government to make further advances in fostering peace, stability and democracy at this critical juncture leading to the country's first post-independence elections. I take the opportunity to

commend the commitment of the Timorese leadership to effectively carry out this enormous undertaking of the approaching 2007 parliamentary and presidential elections, which constitute a real test for the country, one that must be successful. It is thus my hope that the United Nations will be able to provide further support to Timor-Leste, together with other bilateral and multilateral partners, by fully responding to the request of the Timorese leadership for post-UNOTIL assistance through an integrated United Nations office.

56. In conclusion, I would like to express my deep appreciation to my Special Representative, Sukehiro Hasegawa, and to all the men and women of UNOTIL for their dedicated efforts to discharge the mandate entrusted to the Mission by the Security Council.